Department of Historic Resources Reconnaissance Level Survey

Accomack DHR Id#: 001-0027-0104

Resource Identification

Property Name(s): WFF # W-035B – Cable Term Building

{Current}

Property Date: 1955

Address(s): Island Road {Current}

County/Independent City: Accomack Vicinity of: Chincoteague State, Zip:Virginia 23337 USGS Quad Name: WALLOPS ISLAND

Surrounding area: Rural

National Register Eligibility Status

Property is not Historic (50 years or older)

Resource Description

Ownership Status: Public - Federal

Acreage: 0.5

Primary Resource Exterior Componant Description:

Comp Type/Form Component Chimneys Chimneys - None Foundation Foundation - Slab

Porch Porch - None

Roof Roof - Flat

Structural System - Masonry Structural System Site Description: On east side of Island Road adjacent to Launch Area 4.

Material

Concrete Foundation - Poured

Material Treatment

Roof - Not visible

other Concrete

WUZIT Count:

Historic? No. **Wuzit Types**

Historic Air-Related

NR Resource Count:

Individual Resource Information

WUZIT: Air-Related

Accessed? No Est. Date of Construction: 1955 {Owner/site visit} Not accessible

Primary Resource? Yes Number of Stories: 1.0 Architectural Style: Other Condition: Fair

Interior Plan Type: Other Deterioration Threats to Resource:

Neglect

Description: The walls of the building are composed of poured concrete with a slab foundation and a flat roof; the roof materials are not visible. A heavy steel door with strap hinges is located in the center of the north elevation, flanked by two steel vent hoods at the bottom of the wall. Two similar vent hoods are located on the south elevation at the top of the wall. The building stands over a small trench that extends from under the north elevation into the paved concrete area to the south. In that area, the channel is covered with metal. The foundation slab is cut on the north and south elevations where the channel intersects with the building. The channel was used to run wiring and other cables to the rockets mounted on the launch stand.

Cemetery Information

Bridge Information

National Register Eligibility Information

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Historic Context(s):	Technology/Engineering			
Historic Time Period(s):	S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)			

Significance Statement:

This small, one-story building, constructed in 1955, was used as one of two buildings that supported the Terminal Building Launch Area #4 (WFF # W-030) and launches that took place in that area. The building is located on the east side of Island Road in a level area, adjacent to Launch Area 4. A tall metal structure, originally used as a launch stand that supported rockets above the concrete pad, is located immediately south of the building.

This building is representative of secondary building associated with a Technology/Engineering property type built at the beginning of the New Dominion (1945 – present) period and was one of several buildings built by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) following the end of World War II. Created by Congress in 1915 to conduct research and experiments in aeronautics, NACA constructed a facility to conduct aeronautic research using test rockets on Wallops Island in 1945 called the Auxiliary Flight Research Station, renamed the Pilotless Aircraft Research Station (PARS) in 1946. Over the next 15 years, Wallops researchers helped develop components of the space program, including capsule escape techniques, maximum pressure tests and recovery systems. The PARS also provided support for research in re-entry and life-support systems, Scout launch vehicles, and mobile research projects. NACA operated the base until becoming part of the new National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in 1958. The Cable Term Building has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the removal of the majority of buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959) and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C, or D.

The resource is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D. As a secondary resource the Cable Term Building does not by itself sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with events in order to be eligible under Criterion A, nor does it sufficiently embody a quality of significance associated with a person in order to be eligible under Criterion B. The resource retains its integrity but as a secondary resource of common design and materials, the resource is not eligible under Criterion C as it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. This property does not have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory under Criterion D.

Bibliographic Documentation

Department of Historic Resources Reconnaissance Level Survey

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Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: Giffels and Valet

Citation Abbreviation:

Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1942.

Reference #: 2

Bibliographic RecordType: Map

Author: U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

1950

Reference #: 3

 Bibliographic RecordType:
 Map

 Author:
 U.S. Navy

Citation Abbreviation:

Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1953.

Ownership Information

Graphic Media Documentation

<u>Medium</u>	Depository ID #	Photo Depository	Date	File Name	
35mm B&W	21537	DHR	2004/07/99	Frames 35-37	

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events

CRM Event #1,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

Date:2004/07/99Organization or Person:URS GroupVDHR Project ID # Associated with Event:2003-0571

Gaithersburg, MD 20878

CRM Event #2,

Cultural Resource Management Event: Reconnaissance Survey

 Date:
 2003/08/08

 Organization or Person:
 URS Group

 VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event:
 2003-0571

Bethesda, MD 20814